



City of Arts & Innovation

PRESS RELEASE

Police Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RIVERSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT CONDUCT "CIGARETTE DECOY" OPERATION

Riverside, CA – On January 13, 2015, The Riverside Police Department's Vice Unit conducted a minor decoy operation for purchasing cigarettes in the City of Riverside. A minor, under the supervision of Vice officers, enters a smoke shop and attempts to purchase cigarettes from an employee. The minors were directed to show their California driver's license, California identification card, or tell the employee their age if asked.

The operation covered eleven (11) businesses and was conducted over a five-hour period. Of those, ten (10) locations asked for the decoy's identification. The employee properly asked the decoy to leave the establishment without selling them cigarettes. One (1) business sold cigarettes to a minor. The name of the business cited was MY KB Smoke Shop near the 3800 block of Pierce St. Employees selling cigarettes to minors were cited for Penal Code violations.

This operation was conducted as a response to "WeTip" information received from Citizens advising police of local smoke shops selling tobacco products to minors.

